

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) issued the following statement regarding today’s announcement of the unemployment rate dropping down to 9 percent, which is four-tenths less than last month and the lowest level since April 2009. In addition, the economy added 36,000 private sector jobs.

“Today’s job numbers are positive news for Orange County families, and are proof that efforts to rebuild our economy are catching steam. Over the last two months, the employment rate has slowly but steadily declined, reaching its lowest level in nearly two years. This is good news for those who are looking for employment, and for the more than 36,000 Americans who returned to work in January. These men and women will help to power America’s expanding economy and steer us into a brighter and better future.

“But more work needs to be done. Millions of unemployed Americans continue to be burdened with escalating financial troubles and mounting frustrations. It’s more important than ever that we commit to passing legislation that creates jobs, supports small businesses, and rebuilds the American middle class, and I am committed to working with my colleagues on Congress to get this done. Powering our recovery and creating jobs in Orange County continues to be my top priority.”